



EZ SIM

BILLING ANALYSIS SOFTWARE

EZ Sim -- Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is EZ Sim?

EZ Sim is the next step in energy accounting. EZ Sim's quick spreadsheet template is equivalent to a sophisticated engineering analysis, but you don't have to be an engineer to use it. EZ Sim lets you use utility bills to calibrate a simulation of a commercial building in an interactive graphic window. Once it matches the building's utility bills, the simulation model provides reliable and realistic estimates of potential conservation savings. With EZ Sim, the calibration process reveals how energy is used within the facility to help diagnose the reasons for excessive consumption or poorly functioning components.

Q. Who uses EZ Sim?

EZ Sim is designed for resource conservation managers, account representatives and facility operators. It is also being used by engineers and ESCOs to help them formulate presentations for clients, such as graphical performance targets that enables the ESCO and the client to understand a performance contract.

Q. What can you do with it?

- Diagnose energy patterns and consumption
- Calibrate savings estimates to agree with actual energy usage
- Estimate energy end-uses within the facility
- Verify vendor claims for energy products and services
- Generate performance targets and compare against actual energy bills
- Provide a picture of current operations

Q. What is different about EZ Sim?

- EZ Sim operates with monthly average data instead of hourly data. It is designed to compare against actual monthly utility bills.
- EZ Sim operates with simple weather data - just daily average temperature. These data are readily available for most locations and are based on the actual, not long-term average, weather.
- EZ Sim is based on building physics, not a statistical curve-fit, so you can change a physical parameter to see what difference that would make in your facility. This allows "what-if" questions to test your theories about how your building operates.
- EZ Sim provides information as graphical pictures, and a picture is worth a thousand words!
- EZ Sim works instantly - you make a change and immediately observe the effect.
- EZ Sim can predict what future utility bills should be. This provides performance targets to determine if installations are on track. This is the simplest form of building commissioning - and at very little cost.

Q. What are the computer requirements?

You should have a Pentium PC running Windows and Excel '97.

Q. How do you get EZ Sim?

EZ Sim software and manual are provided as part of a one-day training seminar at which we show you how to use the software. Or it can be purchased separately for \$199. You will also want a weather file for your locality. These files cost \$25 on a one-time basis or you can

arrange for an annual subscription so that you always have the most current data. You can easily make your own weather files, the manual explains how.

Q. What support is provided?

We will respond by email to user questions. A user newsletter is available. The EZ Sim website has case examples you can download, the latest news about EZ Sim, and discussions with other practitioners. We want you experience with EZ Sim to be a success!

Q. What other costs or labor are involved?

EZ Sim uses your existing utility bills and available information, so the cost to input information into EZ Sim is almost nothing. Your only other cost would be to ensure you have a recent version of Excel.

EZ Sim is easy to use so the learning curve is minimal. A trained user can enter the data and model a building in about a half-hour. However, if you do not use EZ Sim frequently, you may need a bit more time to refresh your memory.

The manual provides step-by-step explanations that will answer most of your questions.

You will want to keep weather files current so that you can use recent utility bills. You can update these files yourself or purchase recent files from the EZ Sim website, www.ezsim.com.

Currently there are no additional costs. We offer detailed engineering support of specific projects (if requested).

Q. So, what do I really get for my money?

For \$199 you will receive:

- EZ Sim simulation software
- EZ Sim manual
- Tutorial to show you how to use EZ Sim.
- Email support for your first projects.
- Access to the EZ Sim website that includes case examples.

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